



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

VII. *An Account of the late mild Weather in Cornwall, of the Quantity of Rain fallen there in the Year 1762 : In a Letter from the Rev. William Borlase, M. A. F. R. S. to Mr. Henry Baker, F. R. S.*

Dear Sir,

Ludguan, Jan. 22, 1763.

Read Feb. 10,
1763.

I AM very sorry to hear of your distress at London, by the rigour of the season. —Our winters in Cornwall are indeed generally more mild than any where in this island, but I do not remember so wide a difference as that of the present season with you and us. —In November, on the 12. 13. 14. our frost began, mostly attended with hoar frosty mornings: here and there a pool of still water had a film over it, scarce strong enough to bear an egg, not a large pebble: and the frost was always over before noon.—Frost of the same degree on the 18th, and 20th,—hoar frost only the 26th.—Frost, but of no greater degree, Dec. 5. 6. and 7th.—Hoar only on the 11th.—On the 14th and 15th, frost, but of the above degree only: a little sleet on the 31st post merid.—To this day no frost or snow. On these coldest days the Thermometer was never so low as 38° but on three days only, viz. Dec. 14 and 15th, and Jan. 9th.—I must not conceal from you, however, that some allowance must be made for the height of the Quicksilver, because my Thermometer is not with doors; but yet it stands in a little stair-case far from any fire, where the Sun in

the midst of summer never reaches till 6 o'Clock P. M. and in winter never: and the case in which the tube of Quicksilver is fixed communicates with the open air, by three holes lined with tin, pierced through the munnion of the window to which it is fixed; so that tho' it is not in the open air, yet must the Quicksilver be exposed to every extremity of the Atmosphere by constant intercourse.

You will judge that our cold was no ways excessive, when I add, that the balm of Gilead, in the natural open ground, has not suffered: the myrtles are in perfect health: the mignonettes in flower: the cluster rose and white Violet in bloom at Christmas; and at the same time I had the scarlet double ranunculus full blown given me by a neighbour. The double hyacinths have formed their bells, and some are now ready to unfold.

It has not (I believe) been remembered in the age of man, that in the west of Cornwall we have ever had such a long continuance of easterly winds.

About the middle of Nov. for 14 days the wind had its prevailing turn from the east. — It was easterly, with a variation now and then (a point or two) to the north or south, every day of December, excepting the 21st, when it blew W. S. W. and S. S. W. — and to this 22d day of January it has blown every day from the east, varying half a point or so to the S. or N.

Since I have entered into these latter disquisitions on the season, give me leave to add the quantity of water fallen here in the year 1762.

Inches. Tenths. Parts of a Tenth.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------------|
| January | — | — | 4 | — | 3 | — | 0 |
| February | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | 0 |
| March | — | — | 2 | — | 8 | — | 0 |
| April | — | — | 1 | — | 0 | — | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| May | — | — | 1 | — | 0 | — | 0 |
| June | — | — | 0 | — | 2 | — | 0 |
| July | — | — | 0 | — | 5 | — | 0 |
| August | — | — | 3 | — | 5 | — | 0 |
| September | — | — | 4 | — | 3 | — | 0 |
| October | — | — | 5 | — | 6 | — | 0 |
| November | — | — | 3 | — | 2 | — | $\frac{1}{6}$ |
| December | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | — | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|---|---|---------------|
| In the whole | 29 | — | 9 | — | $\frac{4}{6}$ |
|--------------|----|---|---|---|---------------|

If you, Sir, or any of your acquaintance keep an ombrometer, and register of the rain at London, I should be glad to know how much fell there, for by such observations it might in time be known where the quantity exceeds. I think round Paris they reckon but at 19 inches, but in islands, and near the Sea coast it must be more.

I remain, Sir,

your most obedient servant

William Borlase.